WE CLAIM:

1.   A method for exposing property values maintained at a server computer to an application executing on a client computer, the method comprising:

receiving a request from the application at the server computer for a resource;

determining whether a property value maintained at the server computer should be returned with the resource;

in response to determining that the property value should be returned with the resource, retrieving the current value of the property and rendering into the resource a variable statement specifying the current value of the property; and

returning the resource including the variable statement to the requesting application.

2.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the resource comprises a page displayable by the application, and wherein determining whether a property value maintained at the server computer should be returned with the resource comprises determining whether a data file associated with the page includes a tag indicating that a property value should be returned with the resource.

3.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the tag comprises the name utilized by the server computer to identify the property value.

4.   The method of Claim 3, wherein the tag further comprises a name that should be utilized to refer to the property value within the variable statement.

5.   The method of Claim 4, further comprising after rendering the variable statement into the resource:

rendering into the resource program code utilizing the variable statement into the resource.

6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the program code is specified in the data file data file that includes the tag indicating that the property value should be returned with the resource.

7. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1.

8. A computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 1.

9. A system for exposing property values maintained at a server computer to an application executing on a client computer, the system comprising:

a server computer operative to receive a request from the application for a resource, to determine whether a property value maintained at the server computer should be returned with the resource, to render into the resource a variable statement specifying the current value of the property in response to determining that the property value should be returned with the resource, and to return the resource including the variable statement to the requesting application; and

a client computer operative to generate the request to the server computer for the resource, to receive the resource from the server computer, and further to execute program code for utilizing the variable statement returned with the resource.

10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the resource comprises a web page displayable by the application, and wherein the server computer is operative to determine whether the property value should be returned with the resource comprises determining whether a solution specification file associated with the page includes a tag indicating that a property value should be returned with the resource.

11. The system of Claim 10, wherein the tag comprises the name utilized by the server computer to identify the property value.

12. The system of Claim 11, wherein the tag further comprises a name that should be utilized by the program code executing on the client computer to refer to the property value within the variable statement.

13. The system of Claim 12, wherein the server computer is further operative to render into the resource the program code executed by the client computer to utilize the variable statement.

14. The system of Claim 13, wherein the program code is contained within the solution specification file.

15. A computer-readable medium having an extensible markup language data structure stored thereon for use in exposing a property value stored at a server computer to a client computer, the data structure comprising:

a server property tag indicating whether a property value maintained at the server computer should be exposed to the client computer within a resource requested by the client computer.

16. The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the server property tag further comprises a property parameter that identifies a name utilized by the server computer to identify the property value.

17. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the server property tag further comprises a name parameter that identifies a name that should be utilized by the client computer to refer to the property value within a variable statement.

18.   The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, further comprising:

one or more data fields that include program code that may be executed on the client computer to utilize the variable statement.

19.   A method for exposing property values maintained at a server computer to an object executing within a web browser on a client computer, the method comprising:

receiving a request from the web browser at the server computer for a displayable web page;

consulting a solution specification file associated with the web page to determine whether a property value maintained at the server computer should be returned with the web page;

in response to determining that the property value should be returned with the resource, retrieving the current value of the property from a location within the server computer and rendering into the web page a variable statement specifying the current value of the property; and

returning the web page, including the variable statement, to the requesting web browser.

20.   The method of Claim 19, further comprising:

retrieving from the solution specification file executable script that utilizes the variable statement; and

rendering into the web page the executable script following the rendering of the variable statement.

21.   The method of Claim 20, further comprising:

receiving the web page at the web browser; and

executing the executable script within a script host provided by the web browser to thereby utilize the property value identified by the variable statement.